IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Previously presented)   A method for protecting text within a page displayed by a computer, comprising:

identifying a designated portion of original text contained within a page, to be protected;

modifying the page, comprising:

encrypting the designated portion of original text to form a portion of encrypted text; and

replacing the designated portion of original text within the page with the portion of encrypted text;

rendering the page into a graphics device, comprising:

controlling a display layout for the modified page, comprising determining a layout based on spatial characteristics of decrypted text instead of spatial characteristics of the encrypted text, to ensure that the display layout corresponds to a page containing the designated portion of original text;

decrypting the portion of encrypted text; and

converting text into graphics output; and

displaying at least a portion of data from the graphics device.

2. (Original)   The method of claim 1 wherein the page is a web page.

3. (Original)   The method of claim 2 wherein the web page is an HTML page.

4. (Original)   The method of claim 2 wherein the web page is an XML page.

5. (Original)   The method of claim 1 wherein the page is part of a document produced by a software application.

6. (Original)   The method of claim 1 wherein the graphics device is a memory device.

7. (Original)   The method of claim 1 wherein the graphics device is a screen device.

8. (Original)   The method of claim 1 wherein the graphics device is a graphics port.

9. (Previously presented)   The method of claim 1 wherein said encrypting is based on encoding of characters.

10. (Previously presented)   The method of claim 1 wherein said encrypting is based on encoding of words.

11. (Previously presented)   The method of claim 1 wherein said encrypting comprises adding leading and trailing characters to flag encrypted text.

12. (Previously presented)   The method of claim 1 wherein said encrypting comprises padding encrypted text so that identical words have distinct encrypted representations.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously presented)   The method of claim 1 wherein the graphics output is raster output.

15. (Previously presented)   The method of claim 1 wherein said identifying, said encrypting and said replacing are performed by a server computer, and wherein said controlling, said rendering and said displaying are performed by a client computer connected to the server computer over a network.

16. (Previously presented)   The method of claim 1 wherein said decrypting the portion of encrypted text occurs within a patched operating system function for outputting content.

17. (Previously presented)   The method of claim 16 wherein the operating system function is a Microsoft Windows TextOut function.

18. (Previously presented)   The method of claim 16 wherein the operating system function is a Macintosh DrawText function.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously presented)   The method of claim 1 wherein said determining comprises calculating widths of character strings.

23. (Previously presented)   The method of claim 22 wherein said determining comprises decrypting encrypted text strings.

24. (Original)   The method of claim 23 wherein said decrypting encrypted text strings occurs within a patched operating system function for determining widths of character strings.

25. (Original)   The method of claim 24 wherein the operating system function is a Microsoft Windows GetTextExtent function.

26. (Previously presented)   A system for protecting text within a page displayed by a computer, comprising:

        a parser identifying a designated portion of original text contained within a page, to be protected;

        an encoder encrypting the designated portion of original text to form a portion of encrypted text;

        an editor replacing the designated portion of original text with the portion of encrypted text, within the page;

        a graphics device;

        a page renderer rendering the page into said graphics device, comprising:

                a page formatter controlling a display layout for the modified page, by determining a layout based on spatial characteristics of decrypted text instead of spatial characteristics of the encrypted text, to ensure that the display layout corresponds to a page containing the designated portion of original text;

                a text decoder decrypting the portion of encrypted text; and

                an output processor converting text into graphics output; and

        a display device displaying at least a portion of data from said graphics device.

27. (Original)   The system of claim 26 wherein the page is a web page.

28. (Original)   The system of claim 27 wherein the web page is an HTML page.

29. (Original)   The system of claim 27 wherein the web page is an XML page.

30. (Original)   The system of claim 26 wherein the page is part of a document produced by a software application.

31. (Original)   The system of claim 26 wherein said graphics device is a memory device.

32. (Original)   The system of claim 26 wherein said graphics device is a screen device.

33. (Original)   The system of claim 26 wherein said graphics device is a graphics port.

34. (Previously presented)   The system of claim 26 wherein said encoder performs encoding of characters.

35. (Previously presented)   The system of claim 26 wherein said encoder performs encoding of words.

36. (Previously presented)   The system of claim 26 wherein said encoder adds leading and trailing characters to flag encrypted text.

37. (Previously presented)   The system of claim 26 wherein said encoder pads encrypted text so that identical words have distinct encrypted representations.

38. (Canceled)

39. (Previously presented)   The system of claim 26 wherein the graphics output is raster output.

40. (Original)   The system of claim 26 wherein said parser, said encoder and said editor reside on a server computer, wherein said graphics device and said page renderer reside on a client computer, and wherein said display device is connected to the client computer, the system further comprising network connectors connecting the client computer to the server computer.

41. (Previously presented)   The system of claim 26 wherein said text decoder operates within a patched operating system function for outputting content.

42. (Previously presented)   The system of claim 41 wherein the operating system function is a Microsoft Windows TextOut function.

43. (Previously presented)   The system of claim 41 wherein the operating system function is a Macintosh DrawText function.

44. (Canceled)

45. (Canceled)

46. (Canceled)

47. (Previously presented)   The system of claim 26 wherein said page formatter comprises a string analyzer calculating widths of character strings.

48. (Previously presented)   The system of claim 47 wherein said page formatter comprises a string decoder decrypting encrypted text strings.

49. (Original)   The system of claim 48 wherein said string decoder operates within a patched operating system function for determining widths of character strings.

50. (Original)   The system of claim 49 wherein the operating system function is a Microsoft Windows GetTextExtent function.

51. (Previously presented)   A method for protecting text contained within a page displayed by a computer, comprising:

accessing a page containing a portion of encrypted text;

rendering the page into a graphics device, comprising:

controlling a display layout for the page, comprising determining a layout based on spatial characteristics of decrypted text instead of spatial characteristics of the encrypted text, to ensure that the display layout corresponds to a page containing decrypted text;

decrypting the portion of encrypted text; and

converting content into graphics output; and

displaying at least a portion of data from the graphics device.

52. (Original)   The method of claim 51 wherein the page is a web page.

53. (Original)   The method of claim 52 wherein the web page is an HTML page.

54. (Original)   The method of claim 52 wherein the web page is an XML page.

55. (Original)   The method of claim 51 wherein the page is part of a document produced by a software application.

56. (Original)   The method of claim 51 wherein the graphics device is a memory device.

57. (Original)   The method of claim 51 wherein the graphics device is a screen device.

58. (Original)   The method of claim 51 wherein the graphics device is a graphics port.

59. (Canceled)

60. (Previously presented)   The method of claim 51 wherein the graphics output is raster output.

61. (Previously presented)   The method of claim 51 wherein said decrypting the portion of encrypted text occurs within a patched operating system function for outputting content.

62. (Previously presented) The method of claim 61 wherein the operating system function is a Microsoft Windows TextOut function.

63. (Previously presented) The method of claim 61 wherein the operating system function is a Macintosh DrawText function.

64. (Canceled)

65. (Canceled)

66. (Canceled)

67. (Previously presented) The method of claim 51 wherein said determining comprises calculating widths of character strings.

68. (Previously presented) The method of claim 67 wherein said determining comprises decrypting encrypted text strings.

69. (Original) The method of claim 68 wherein said decrypting encrypted text strings occurs within a patched operating system function for determining widths of character strings.

70. (Previously presented) The method of claim 69 wherein the operating system function is a Microsoft Windows GetTextExtent function.

71. (Previously presented) The method of claim 51 further comprising receiving the page having the portion of encrypted text from a server computer.

72. (Previously presented) A system for protecting text contained within a page displayed by a computer, comprising:
    computer hardware storing a page containing a portion of encrypted text;
    a graphics device;
    a page renderer rendering the page into said graphics device, comprising:
        a page formatter controlling a display layout for the page, by determining a layout based on spatial characteristics of decrypted text

instead of spatial characteristics of encrypted text, to ensure that the display layout corresponds to a page containing decrypted text;

a text decoder decrypting the portion of encrypted text; and

an output processor converting text into graphics output; and

a display device displaying at least a portion of data from said graphics device.

73. (Original)   The system of claim 72 wherein the page is a web page.

74. (Original)   The system of claim 73 wherein the web page is an HTML page.

75. (Original)   The system of claim 73 wherein the web page is an XML page.

76. (Original)   The system of claim 72 wherein the page is part of a document produced by a software application.

77. (Original)   The system of claim 72 wherein said graphics device is a memory device.

78. (Original)   The system of claim 72 wherein said graphics device is a screen device.

79. (Original)   The system of claim 72 wherein said graphics device is a graphics port.

80. (Canceled)

81. (Previously presented)   The system of claim 72 wherein the graphics output is raster output.

82. (Previously presented)   The system of claim 72 wherein said text decoder operates within a patched operating system function for outputting content.

83. (Previously presented) The system of claim 82 wherein the operating system function is a Microsoft Windows TextOut function.

84. (Previously presented) The system of claim 82 wherein the operating system function is a Macintosh DrawText function.

85. (Canceled)

86. (Canceled)

87. (Canceled)

88. (Previously presented) The system of claim 72 wherein said page formatter comprises a string analyzer calculating widths of character strings.

89. (Previously presented) The system of claim 88 wherein said page formatter comprises a string decoder decrypting encrypted text strings.

90. (Original) The system of claim 89 wherein said string decoder operates within a patched operating system function for determining widths of character strings.

91. (Original) The system of claim 90 wherein the operating system function is a Microsoft Windows GetTextExtent function.

92. (Previously presented) The system of claim 72 further comprising:
                a network connector; and
                a receiver receiving the page having the portion of encrypted text from a server computer via said network connector.

93. (Canceled)

94. (Canceled)

95. (Canceled)

96. (Canceled)

97. (Canceled)

98. (Canceled)

99. (Canceled)

100. (Canceled)

101. (Canceled)

102. (Canceled)

103. (Canceled)

104. (Canceled)

105. (Canceled)

106. (Canceled)

107. (Canceled)

108. (Canceled)

109. (Canceled)

110. (Canceled)

111. (Canceled)

112. (Canceled)

113. (Canceled)

114. (Canceled)

115. (Previously presented)   A method for protecting text within a page displayed by a computer, comprising:

formatting a page containing a first portion of text to determine a page layout for display, but based on spatial characteristics of a second portion of text instead of spatial characteristics of a first portion of text, to ensure that the display layout corresponds to a page containing the second portion of text; and

rendering the page according to the page layout into a graphics device, comprising:

replacing the first portion of text with the second portion of text;

converting the second portion of text to a graphics output; and

writing the graphics output into the graphics device.

116. (Original)   The method of claim 115 wherein the first portion of text has the same word widths as does the second portion of text.

117. (Original)   The method of claim 115 wherein the graphics output is raster output.

118. (Previously presented)   The method of claim 115 wherein said replacing the first portion of text with the second portion of text occurs within a patched operating system function for converting text into graphics output.

119. (Original)   The method of claim 118 wherein the operating system function is a Microsoft Windows TextOut function.

120. (Original)   The method of claim 118 wherein the operating system function is a Macintosh DrawText function.

121. (Original)   The method of claim 115 wherein said formatting comprises:
replacing first text strings with second text strings; and

calculating widths of the second text strings based on selected font types and font sizes.

122. (Original)   The method of claim 121 wherein said replacing first text strings with second text strings occurs within a patched operating system function for determining widths of character strings.

123. (Original)   The method of claim 122 wherein the operating system function is a Microsoft Windows GetTextExtent function.

124. (Previously presented)   A system for protecting text within a page displayed by a computer, comprising:

a page formatter formatting a page containing a first portion of text to determine a page layout for display, but based on spatial characteristics of a second portion of text instead of spatial characteristics of a first portion of text, to ensure that the display layout corresponds to a page containing the second portion of text; and

a page renderer rendering the page according to the page layout into a graphics device, comprising:

a text processor replacing the first portion of text with a second portion of text; and

a text convertor converting the second portion of text to a graphics output and writing the graphics output into the graphics device.

125. (Original)   The system of claim 124 wherein the first portion of text has the same word widths as does the second portion of text.

126. (Previously presented)   The system of claim 124 wherein the graphics output is raster output.

127. (Original)   The system of claim 124 wherein said text processor operates within a patched operating system function for converting text into graphics output.

128. (Original)   The system of claim 127 wherein the operating system function is a Microsoft Windows TextOut function.

129. (Original)   The system of claim 127 wherein the operating system function is a Macintosh DrawText function.

130. (Original)   The system of claim 124 wherein said formatter comprises:

a string processor replacing first text strings with second text strings; and

a string analyzer calculating widths of the second text strings based on selected font types and font sizes.

131. (Original)   The system of claim 130 wherein said string processor operates within a patched operating system function for determining widths of character strings.

132. (Original)   The system of claim 131 wherein the operating system function is a Microsoft Windows GetTextExtent function.

133. (Canceled)

134. (Canceled)

135. (Canceled)

136. (Canceled)

137. (Canceled)

138. (Canceled)

139. (Canceled)

140. (Canceled)

141. (Original)   A method for protecting text within a page displayed by a computer, comprising:

replacing first text strings with second text strings when formatting a page to determine a page layout; and

replacing a first portion of text with a second portion of text when rendering the page according to the page layout into a graphics device.

142. (Original) A system for protecting text within a page displayed by a computer, comprising:

a string processor replacing first text strings with second text strings when formatting a page to determine a page layout; and

a text processor replacing a first portion of text with a second portion of text when rendering the page according to the page layout into a graphics device.

143. (Previously presented) A method for displaying a page containing text while protecting the text from being copied, comprising rendering a source file for a page containing text into graphics output, wherein

(i) when displayed on a screen, the page containing text appears with a first portion of text;

(ii) an electronic capture of the screen data produces an image containing a second portion of text instead of the first portion of text, the second portion of text being different than the first portion of text; and

(iii) the source file from which the page is rendered contains a third portion of text in place of the first portion of text, the third portion of text being different than the first portion of text.

144. (Previously presented) The method of claim 143 wherein the source file is a text document file.

145. (Previously presented) The method of claim 143 wherein the source file is an HTML file.

146. (Previously presented) The method of claim 143 wherein the second portion of text is an encryption of the first portion of text.

147. (Previously presented) The method of claim 143 wherein the third portion of text is an encryption of the first portion of text.

148. (Previously presented) The method of claim 143 wherein the second portion of text is identical to the third portion of text.

149. (Previously presented)   The method of claim 143 wherein the second portion of text is different than the third portion of text.

150. (Previously presented)   The method of claim 143 wherein the electronic capture of the screen data is performed by a PrintScreen command.

151. (Previously presented)   The method of claim 143 wherein the electronic capture of the screen data is performed by a Copy command and a Paste command.

152. (Previously presented)   The method of claim 143 wherein the electronic capture of the screen data is written to a computer memory.

153. (Previously presented)   The method of claim 143 wherein the electronic capture of the screen data is written to a clipboard.

154. (Previously presented)   The method of claim 143 wherein said rendering is performed by a web browser application.

155. (Previously presented)   The method of claim 143 wherein said rendering is performed by a document reader application.

156. (Previously presented)   The method of claim 143 wherein said rendering is performed by a document editor application.

157. (Previously presented)   A system for displaying a page containing text while protecting the text from being copied, comprising a page renderer for rendering a source file for a page containing text into graphics output for display on a screen, wherein
        (i) when displayed on a screen, the page containing text appears with a first portion of text;
        (ii) an electronic capture of the screen data produces an image containing a second portion of text instead of the first portion of text, the second portion of text being different than the first portion of text; and
        (iii) the source file from which the page is rendered contains a third portion of text in place of the first portion of text, the third portion of text being different than the first portion of text.

158. (Previously presented) The system of claim 157 wherein the source file is a text document file.

159. (Previously presented) The system of claim 157 wherein the source file is an HTML file.

160. (Previously presented) The system of claim 157 wherein the second portion of text is an encryption of the first portion of text.

161. (Previously presented) The system of claim 157 wherein the third portion of text is an encryption of the first portion of text.

162. (Previously presented) The system of claim 157 wherein the second portion of text is identical to the third portion of text.

163. (Previously presented) The system of claim 157 wherein the second portion of text is different than the third portion of text.

164. (Previously presented) The system of claim 157 wherein the electronic capture of the screen data is performed by a PrintScreen command.

165. (Previously presented) The system of claim 157 wherein the electronic capture of the screen data is performed by a Copy command and a Paste command.

166. (Previously presented) The system of claim 157 wherein the electronic capture of the screen data is written to a computer memory.

167. (Previously presented) The system of claim 157 wherein the electronic capture of the screen data is written to a clipboard.

168. (Previously presented) The system of claim 157 wherein said page renderer is activated within a web browser application.

169. (Previously presented) The system of claim 157 wherein said page renderer is activated within a document reader application.

170. (Previously presented) The system of claim 157 wherein said page renderer is activated within a document editor application.

171. (Previously presented) A computer-readable storage medium storing program code for causing a device to perform the steps of:

identifying a designated portion of original text contained within a page, to be protected;

modifying the page, comprising:

encrypting the designated portion of original text to form a portion of encrypted text; and

replacing the designated portion of original text within the page with the portion of encrypted text;

rendering the page into a graphics device, comprising:

controlling a display layout for the modified page, comprising determining a layout based on spatial characteristics of decrypted text instead of spatial characteristics of the encrypted text, to ensure that the display layout corresponds to a page containing the designated portion of original text;

decrypting the portion of encrypted text; and

converting text into graphics output; and

displaying at least a portion of data from the graphics device.

172. (Previously presented) A computer-readable storage medium storing program code for causing a device to perform the steps of:

accessing a page containing a portion of encrypted text;

rendering the page into a graphics device, comprising:

controlling a display layout for the page, comprising determining a layout based on spatial characteristics of decrypted text instead of spatial characteristics of the encrypted text, to ensure that the display layout corresponds to a page containing decrypted text;

decrypting the portion of encrypted text; and

converting content into graphics output; and

displaying at least a portion of data from the graphics device.

173. (Previously presented) A computer-readable storage medium storing program code for causing a device to perform the steps of:

formatting a page containing a first portion of text to determine a page layout for display, but based on spatial characteristics of a second portion of text instead of spatial characteristics of a first portion of text, to ensure that the display layout corresponds to a page containing the second portion of text; and

rendering the page according to the page layout into a graphics device, comprising:

replacing the first portion of text with the second portion of text;

converting the second portion of text to a graphics output; and

writing the graphics output into the graphics device.

174. (Previously presented) A computer-readable storage medium storing program code for causing a device to perform the steps of:

replacing first text strings with second text strings when formatting a page to determine a page layout; and

replacing a first portion of text with a second portion of text when rendering the page according to the page layout into a graphics device.

175. (Previously presented) A computer-readable storage medium storing program code for causing a device to perform the step of:

rendering a source file for a page containing text into graphics output, wherein

(i) when displayed on a screen, the page containing text appears with a first portion of text;

(ii) an electronic capture of the screen data produces an image containing a second portion of text instead of the first portion of text, the second portion of text being different than the first portion of text; and

(iii) the source file from which the page is rendered contains a third portion of text in place of the first portion of text, the third portion of text being different than the first portion of text.